

OBSERVATIONS
UPON THE
PRESENT CONTROVERSY
ABOUT THE
MODE of ASSESSMENT
FOR THE
POOR'S RATES
IN THE
CITY of NORWICH.
RECOMMENDED TO THE ATTENTION
OF THE
INHABITANTS in GENERAL.

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OBSERVATIONS

UPON THE

PRESENT CONTROVERSY

About the Mode of Assessment for the Poor's
RATES in the City of NORWICH.

THIS Controversy has frequently been called a Contest between the City and the Hamlets, but very improperly ; as the subject of Complaint and of the Appeal is, not that the Lands and Houses in the Hamlets are rated higher in proportion to their respective Rents than the Lands and Houses in the City ; but that the Assessments are not made on the persons having and using Stocks and personal Estates, or having Money out at Interest, as well as on the Occupiers of Lands, Houses, &c. in equal proportion as near as may be according to their several and respective values and Estates, as the Act of Parliament requires : for if this were com-

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plied with, and the Stocks, &c. rated at a moderate Interest, it is evident that there would be a much greater annual Income to be assessed ; and consequently a less Rate by the pound would be sufficient to raise any given Sum of Money : and therefore whatever Relief can be thus obtained, according to the Words and the true intent and meaning of the Act of Parliament, must extend to all the Occupiers of Lands, Houses, &c. in the City, as well as to those of the Hamlets, in proportion to the value of their respective Occupations.

But as this will appear more clearly from the state of the Case as settled and agreed upon for the opinion of the Court of King's Bench by the Justices of the Court of Sessions of Norwich, to whom the Appeal was first made ; and as it is proper that the Occupiers of Lands and Houses in the City of Norwich in general, as well as those of the Hamlets, should know and understand as much as possible the Merits of a Case in which they are equally interested,

rested, in order to form some Judgement of the Justice and Equity of the Appeal ; therefore, and with that view principally, the following Copy of the Case is laid before the Public, with some plain Observations upon it for their Consideration ; and if this should likewise be one means amongst others of inclining every class of People concerned, to comply with such a mode of Assessment as shall appear upon a Candid Examination to be fair and equitable, and of bringing about an amicable accommodation of the differences at present subsisting upon this Subject, it is presumed it would be agreeable to the wishes of every honest and good Citizen.

LAKENHAM HAMLET APPEAL

Against the Assessment for the Poors Rate.

The Justices of the Court of Sessions of Norwich made a Case for the Opinion of the Court of King's Bench. By which it appears, the foundation of this Appeal is, that the Sum charged upon the Hamlet is unequal and unjust ; because the Persons

having and using Stocks and personal Estates, and having Money out at Interest, are not assessed and rated in equal proportion as near as may be according to their several and respective values; whereby the said Hamlet, and the several Occupiers of Lands and Tenements therein are much over rated.

The Case then states the Act of Parliament, which directs the Assessment to be made on the respective Inhabitants; and on every Parson and Vicar; and on all and every the Occupiers of Lands, Houses, Tenements, Tythes impropriate, appropriation of Tythes; *and on all Persons having and using Stocks and personal Estates, or having Money out at Interest, in equal proportion as near as may be according to their several and respective Values and Estates.*

They next state, that from the Year 1721 to the Year 1731, the supposed personal property paid a *Sixth Part* of the whole Money raised for the Maintenance of the Poor.

They

They further state, that in £.
the Year 1774 the yearly Rental
of the Real Estates amounted to 46,760

That in the Year 1783 the
Yearly Rental was - 43,430

That in 1774 the Court of
Guardians valued the personal
Property at - - 1,600,000

That in the Year 1783 it was
accounted - - 1,269,500

They then state that the mode adopted
in 1774 was to make the Assessment *on half*
the Rental of the Real Estates.

And on a *fortieth part of the Interest* of
the Personal Estate accounting such Inte-
rest at 4 per Cent.

That in pursuance of this mode of £.
Assessment to raise a quarterly Sum of 2,298

The 43,430l. rental of the real
Estates contributes - - 2,171

And that the 1,269,500l. personal
Property contributes - - 127

By this Case it appears that the Personal
Property which from the Year 1721 to the
Year 1731, paid a *Sixth Part*, does not now
pay

pay an *eighteenth part* of the Money raised : for 1271. multiplied by 18 does not produce the quarterly Sum of 2,2981.

The only Question which upon the above Case, seems to have been before the Court of King's Bench is, Whether by the present Mode of Assessment adopted in 1774, the real Property, and the personal Property, are assessed in equal Proportion as near as may be according to their several and respective values and Estates as the Act of Parliament requires ?

Now it may fairly be presumed from this State of the Case, that the Justices of the Court of Sessions, as well as the Court of Guardians, who must be allowed to be as competent Judges of the Matter as any, did really believe that the personal Property in the City and Hamlets in the Year 1783 amounted to 1,269,500l. otherwise they would not have consented to have it put into the Case made for the Opinion of the Court of King's Bench, that it was accounted so to be ; and it is evident that personal Property was judged and generally allowed

lowed to be assessable from the time of first passing the Act of Parliament ; because for ten years together it actually paid a Sixth Part of the whole Money raised for the maintenance of the Poor ; and is likewise assessed at this present time, only not in equal proportion as near as may be with the real Estates as the Act requires : nor has any sufficient reason yet appeared, why this should not be done ; for those who alledge the improved value of Lands and Houses, on account of the Trade carried on in the City, as a reason for laying the present disproportionate burthen upon them, do not seem to consider, that the Trade and Riches of the City must have increased, before the value of Lands and Houses could increase by means of them ; and consequently the Personal Property and Capital employed in the Trade must have increased at least in as great, probably in a much greater proportion than the value of Lands and Houses : nor do these persons seem to attend to another very material consideration, which is, that the Lands and Houses are actually assessed according

according to the present improved Rents ;
 what good reason then can be given why the
 Stocks in Trade and Personal Property,
 should not be assessed according to the pre-
 sent improved value of them, in like man-
 ner ?

It appears likewise from this state of the
 Case, that if the Personal Property at 4 per
 Cent. Interest, and the Rents of the Lands
 and Houses, were each of them assessed in
 equal proportion according to their respec-
 tive values, as the Act of Parliament re-
 quires; then a Rate of one Shilling in the
 Pound upon the half of each of them would
 raise full the Sum required ; for the Interest
 of the Personal Property as stated at 4 per
 Cent. is - - £. 50,780 0

The Rent of the Land and

Houses - - 43,430 0

The half of the Personal is - 25,390 0

The half of the Rent is - 21,715 0

Together - 20)47,105 0

Which at one Shilling in the

pound produces - 2,355 5

Have

Have not the Occupiers of Lands and Houses therefore sufficient reason to complain of a disproportionate Burthen, when they are rated at about double that proportion in the Pound at half their Rents, because the personal property is rated only at a *fortieth part* of the Interest at 4 per Cent. ? and unless the principles upon which this inequality is founded, can be explained by substantial and clear reasons, it would be uncandid not to allow that the present Complaint is well founded.

When the Assessment of Stock has been mentioned, it has been usual to say in reply, how is it possible to ascertain the Value of it, how can it be come at ? this is raising difficulties indeed, but affords no reason why it should not be assessed as near as may be according to its Value ; and from the state of the Case the general value of it seems to have been fixed already : but if it had not, yet it may be observed upon this Subject, that the Stock or Capital of every Tradesman must bear some proportion

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tion to the number of Hands which he employs taken at an Average ; what that proportion is, those who are conversant in the respective trades can judge very nearly : that the advantage which he receives from the Labour of the Poor, must also be in proportion to the number that work for him ; and the number of Paupers which may be occasioned by the Trade which he carries on must also be in the same proportion : is it not therefore just and equitable that those who receive such an immediate Advantage from the Labour of the Poor, and whose Trade is the principal cause of their increase, should contribute towards their Maintenance when they are unable to work, in the same proportion to the 4 per Cent. Interest of their respective Capitals employed in Trade, as the Occupiers of Lands and Houses do to their respective Rents, who receive only a casual and more distant advantage from a flourishing State of Trade in the City ? And if the Stocks and personal Estates had and used in
Trade

Trade were moderately assessed, in some proportion to the number of hands employed by each person respectively, this would not only be in proportion to the Benefit he receives from the Labour of the Poor and the number of Paupers which his Trade may occasion, but would also be a means of obviating one capital Objection, as it would prevent any Surmises about his Worth, and whether he traded with his own or a borrowed Capital ; and so could not at all affect his Credit, which is a very material consideration in a matter of this kind.

However, the Question lately before the Court of King's Bench seems to have been, not whether Persons having and using Stocks and personal Estates are to be assessed for them ; or what is the General value of the Personal Estate which is the object of Assessment ; both these things having been stated and allowed in the Case ; but whether it is agreeable to the Words or meaning and intention of the Act of Parliament, that Stocks and

personal Estates should be rated at only a fortieth part of their Interest at 4 per Cent. and real Estates at one half of their respective Rents : or in other Words, whether it is equitable or legal, that a person who occupies a House at forty Pounds a Year, or a Farm at that Value, should pay as much towards the maintenance of the Poor, as a person who employs a Capital of twenty thousand Pounds in Trade, and probably has the advantage of the Labour of more than thirty times as many poor people as either of the former, and occasions a proportionable number of Paupers to be maintained when they are unable to work ; and yet this is the real fact according to the present mode of Assessment ; for a supposed Capital of twenty thousand Pounds is rated at the Interest only of five Hundred Pounds (which is a fortieth part of 20,000l.) at 4 per Cent. that is, at twenty Pounds, and a House or a Farm of the Rent of forty Pounds a Year, is rated at the same : does not it then seem a matter of wonder that the
injustice

injustice of this proceeding should ever be made a Question at all, rather than that a Rate made upon such a principle should be quashed in the Court of King's Bench as being unequal ?

It is said likewise, that as the value of a Person's capital cannot be ascertained, so there must be a great inequality and injustice in assessing it : this must in some degree be the Case ; and what Tax is there in this Kingdom which can be levied with exact equality ? does not the general practice of the people in paying Taxes shew the impossibility of this ? every body being disposed to conceal assessable Property as much as can be ; so that the above observation only shews the necessity of making the Assessments with as much equality as the nature of the Case will admit of : and what has already been allowed, in stating the Case which has been submitted to the consideration of the Court of King's Bench, seems to contain all that is needful for that purpose at present.

It

It is urged likewise that Trade ought not to be burthened ; the propriety and good Policy of this maxim must be acknowledged by every one that considers the Advantages and importance of Trade to the Community at large as well as to individuals ; but this seems to be no reason why it ought not to bear an equal share in the burthen of maintaining those poor people when they are unable to work, by whose labour it is supported and carried on whilst they are able : surely if this had been thought unreasonable, the Inhabitants of Norwich would not have had it inserted in the Act of Parliament, which was obtained by their own Petition, that Occupiers of Lands, Houses, &c. and Persons having and using Stocks and personal Estates should be assessed in equal proportion as near as may be according to their several and respective values and Estates.

It has been suggested in a late Publication upon this Subject, that to come at the equal Proportion as near as may be, at
which

which Stock ought to be assessed, those things that are not rateable should be considered ; as Money in the Funds which is never rated ; or debts due from abroad ; or those owed by the Stockholders ; that these THREE several Articles should be deducted from the Stockholders apparent Estate, and the remainder will be found as near as may be the real Stock, for which only he is to be rated.

Now there is one circumstance in this representation of the matter which raises a suspicion that there is some mistake in it ; for if these three Articles be deducted from some of the largest Capitals in the City, there would little else remain, but unmanufactured Materials and Goods unfold, which make but a part, and probably much the smallest part of a very large Capital ; except what might probably come under the description of Utenfils in Trade, Household Furniture, or Family Accommodations, which are never subjected to any Tax or
Assessment

Affessment as Stock ; and thus the meaning and intent of the Act of Parliament would be in a great measure defeated.

That Money in the Funds is not rateable as Stock in Trade is evident, because it is not employed in Trade ; but yet it may be an Object of Assessment to the Poor's Rates, as Money out at Interest, because it is a part of the personal Property of those who live in the place where the Poor are to be maintained ; and therefore ought not to be deducted from their apparent Estate : and probably it would upon Examination appear to be legally Assessable ; for otherwise, if the Lender only is rateable for Money had on Interest, as this Writer asserts, a Tradesman might place all his own Money in the Funds, or at Interest upon other Securities, and carry on his Trade with a borrowed Capital ; and by this means take the advantage of the Labour of the Poor and help to increase the number, and yet contribute nothing out of his Stock towards their maintenance when they are unable to work ;
which

which would be such an Evasion as will not bear a candid examination, being quite contrary to the intent and meaning of the Act of Parliament; which subjects all persons having and using Stocks and personal Estates to an Assessment in equal proportion as near as may be according to their several and respective values and estates, without any distinction between a borrowed Capital and that of a man's own; and very justly, because both the one and the other are equally applied in the Employment of the Poor, and obtaining the Advantage of their Labour.

With regard to Debts due from abroad, as well as those due near home or in any part of our own Kingdom, they each of them undoubtedly make a part, and in many instances a very principal part of the Capital employed in Trade, and they are always reckoned as such in estimating the Stock in case of Bankruptcy, as well as on every other occasion, and so ought not surely to be deducted from it; for though all Debts are subject to become doubtful or bad upon oc-

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caſion, for which a reaſonable allowance ought to be made, yet they are always expected to bring in a Profit in proportion to the hazard attending each of them reſpectively ; therefore it is apprehended that no good reaſon can be given why they ſhould not both be the Objects of Aſſeſſment at a moderate Intereſt.

As for Debts owing by the Stockholders, if by them is meant Money borrowed at Intereſt to be employed in Trade, there does not ſeem to be any good reaſon for making a reduction of that, becauſe ſuch Money is incorporated with the Capital, makes a part of it, and produces a Profit to the Borrower over and above what he pays for the uſe of it : it is likewiſe applied in the Employment of the Poor, and obtaining the advantage of their Labour, and at the ſame time helps to increaſe the Number of them ; and therefore agreeably to the Act of Parliament ſhould help to maintain them when they are unable to work. So that of the THREE things which this Writer aſſerts, ought

ought to be deducted from the apparent Estate of every Stockholder, there does not appear a sufficient reason for deducting any one of them.

It has been given as a reason why Money borrowed to be employed in Trade, should not be assessed along with a Man's own Capital, but deducted out of it before the Assessment is made ; that otherwise the same Money would be liable to be assessed twice over ; but this Argument is founded upon a mistake, and will be effectually done away by considering, that it is the *Interest* which is assessed and not the *Principal* ; and therefore the Lender is assessed as being a Person having Money out at Interest, and the Borrower because he has it and uses it in Trade, and is supposed to make a Profit of it over and above what he pays for the use of it ; and this Profit is rated at the Average of 4 per Cent.

It has been said likewise that, unless the Money which a Man borrows to employ in

Trade be deducted out of his Capital before an Assessment is made, he is assessed for what is not his own property : and may it not with equal truth be said, that a Man who hires Land to occupy, is assessed for what is not his own property ? they are both so far upon the same footing, that each of them pays an annual Sum for the use of the respective Properties, and nearly in the same proportion ; but the fact is that neither the one nor the other is assessed because the property is or is not his own, but because he has it and uses it, and is presumed to make a profit of it over and above what he pays for the use of it ; and it seems to be upon this principle that the Act of Parliament directs the Assessments to be made not only upon all Occupiers of Lands, &c. but upon all Persons having and using Stocks and Personal Estates in equal proportion as near as may be according to their several and respective Values and Estates. With what Justice then can Lands, &c. be assessed at half their Annual Rent, while
 Stock

Stock and Personal Estate is assessed at only a *fortieth part of the Interest* at 4 per Cent. ? with what shew of reason can one be expected to pay twenty times as much as the other in proportion to their respective values ; if there are losses and hazards in Trade, so are there likewise in the Occupation of Land, and probably they are not very unequal in proportion to their respective values and the Profits arising from each of them ; there have been Estates gotten and lost by the Management both of the one and the other, nor can the Losses and hazards of either be estimated with any exactness : but if an allowance is to be made for them in the one Case why not in the other also ?

It is suggested likewise in the publication here alluded to, that thousands of indigent Poor are employed by the Property of the Stockholders, and yet that property is threatened to be taxed (as it is there expressed) : Now this would indeed be highly improper, if the Trade was carried on
merely

merely for the sake of employing the indigent Poor, but every one knows that this is not only unreasonable to expect, but impossible to be done; and although from motives of kindness, Employment is frequently given to one person in preference to another who stands less in need of it, and whole Families are often comfortably supported by this means, yet as the general and prevailing principle upon which any Man engages in Trade is, and ought to be the prospect of advantage to himself and his own family, it is but equitable that he should help to maintain those poor people when they are unable to work, by whose labour he was enabled to carry it on when they were able; and the Law has very justly determined that this should be done in proportion as near as may be to the value of the Stock which he has and uses in Trade.

Another Publication has likewise appeared upon this Subject in which the Writer intimates the necessity of a fresh general Survey, and it is presumed a fresh Assessment
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in consequence of it ; now no one can reasonably object to this if it shall be found needful ; provided it be made in equal proportion as near as may be upon all the Objects of Assessment, as the Act of Parliament requires.

He then observes that the Stock and Rent assessed in the Hamlets at present pay about a seventh part of any Mulct that is to be raised, and the Stock and Rentals in the City pay the remainder : and then he infers from an Account of Arrears and deficiencies lately published by the Court of Guardians, that the reduction of the Rents in the City is in the proportion of one to eight, and that from Deaths, Bankruptcies, and other causes, the supposed Stock in the City is reduced six hundred thousand Pounds, and that the Interest or Rental of it in this reduced state is 2422 Pounds. He then supposes that since the year 1774 through the addition of the Town Close,

new

new Buildings, &c. the Value in the Hamlets is increased in the moderate proportion, as he calls it, of one to twelve, and thus the Hamlets, he says, will be found in possession of more than one fifth of the whole rateable Property in both City and Hamlets : from which he afterwards draws this conclusion, that the Hamlets ought to pay one fifth of any Sum that is to be raised.

Now it is difficult to find out upon what foundation this Writer makes these suppositions and conclusions, as the matter is by no means clearly stated ; and since it is impossible for him to know the exact proportion between the value of the Assessable Property in the City and the Hamlets, until the fresh general Survey be made, which he thinks is so much wanted ; it would surely have been more fair and candid in him to have argued from the Case which has been already settled and agreed upon by both parties for the opinion of the Court

Court of King's Bench, and which is the foundation of the present Controversy ; than to substitute Suppositions of his own which probably may be very wide of the Truth.

But besides this, there are two very mistaken and wrong Notions implied in and running through the whole of this representation of the matter : one of which is, that the Hamlets only are interested in this Contest in opposition to the City ; and this Notion has indeed been frequently urged and impressed upon the Minds of the Citizens with more eagerness than it ought to have been, unless it had been true : but whoever will candidly examine the Case as stated for the opinion of the Court of King's Bench must perceive that the Occupiers of Lands and Houses *in the City* as well as in the Hamlets are equally interested in it.

The other mistake is, that Stock employed in Trade ought to be assessed at only a fortieth part of the Interest of it at 4 per
E
Cent.

Cent. when the Rents of all the Land and Houses both in the City and Hamlets are assessed at a half. But this Notion seems to be cautiously concealed and kept out of sight, as if it would not bear examination : for upon examination it will appear that the Sum of 2,422 pounds which he states as a Rental of the City Stock, even in the reduced State in which he would represent it, is a twentieth part of the Interest of that same Stock at 4 per Cent. which twentieth part being assessed at a half, makes the Assessment only a fortieth part upon the whole of it, for it stands thus in Figures :

Stock in the City	-	£. 1,811,000
To be deducted from it	-	600,000
		1,211,000
		4
The Interest at 4 per Cent.	20)	4844,0
which being divided by 20		
gives	-	2422

can it then reasonably be expected that the Occupiers of Land and Houses either in the City or the Hamlets should contentedly submit

submit to a mode of Assessment apparently so very unequal ?

In pursuance of the same mistaken Notions it is afterwards observed by this Writer, that the Hamlets now pay about a seventh part of the Mulct; propose to pay a tenth, ought to pay at least a fifth, and that the annual loss to the City for want of a fresh Survey is 1128l. 12s. Now these Observations have the Appearance of being intended to excite the Resentment of the Inhabitants of the City against those of the Hamlets, implying that the Complaints of the latter are groundless and unreasonable, and that they want to obtain relief for themselves at the expence of the former; whereas it is evident from the state of the Case, that the Occupiers of Land and Houses both in the *City* and Hamlets are equally interested in the Event of this Matter, and must be proportionable Shares in whatever Relief can be obtained agreeably to the Act of Parliament.

With regard to the first observation, that the Hamlets pay about one seventh of the Mulcts, it is true, and they justly complain of this as an unequal Burthen for the reasons given in the stated Case ; and as to the next that they propose to pay one tenth, the exact Truth is this—the Committee from the City made this proposal to a Committee from the Hamlets ; that if the Hamlets would consent to pay one tenth, they would recommend it to their Constituents of the City to accept of this for the sake of peace and accommodation of differences ; but though the Hamlets were willing to acquiesce in this proposal, yet it was absolutely rejected on the part of the City ; and as to the two last observations, namely, that the Hamlets ought to pay one fifth, and that the annual loss to the City for want of a fresh survey is 1128l. 12s. they are assertions evidently made without any just foundation.

If

If we may judge from the Temper which appears throughout this Publication, the good Citizen who subscribes it, seems to think that the Occupiers of Land in the Hamlets ought to be made to pay for presuming to express their dissatisfaction at the present mode of Assessment : for he concludes his Paper with the following Query :---If Houses in the City sell for twelve years purchase, and Land in the Hamlets for twenty, ought not Land to be assessed three fourths and Houses only one half, as in other places ? now this is not quite a fair representation of the matter, for though Houses of the meaner sort may sell for twelve years purchase, yet most of the good Dwelling-houses in the City sell for more than twenty years purchase ; this argument therefore for raising the Rates upon Land is very ill-founded. Nor is it any thing to the purpose what may be done in other places, as in all probability there is not another place in the whole Kingdom so circumstanced as the City of Norwich is in
this

this particular, which has Hamlets so very extensive, and which contain so large a quantity of Land lett to farm in a course of Husbandry as there is here, in proportion to the size of the place : and there are good reasons why Lands should not be rated so high in proportion to the Rent as Houses, because they have not so many Inhabitants in proportion to their value, and consequently do not occasion so many paupers. Besides, a Farmer hires not only a House to dwell in, but a Trade or a Business ; he pays a Rent for that which is to be managed and employed in getting his livelihood ; so that his Rent is much higher in proportion to his real worth, than that of a Person who hires only a Dwelling-house, and therefore he cannot but feel the hardship of a high Assessment in proportion to his Rent much more severely : and it should be considered likewise, that Agriculture ought not to be burthened any more than Trade, for they are both beneficial to the Public. If it is said that the
letter

letter of the law requires that Lands as well as Houses should be assessed in proportion to their Rents, it is allowed; and the same Law requires that Persons having and using Stocks and personal Estates should be assessed in equal proportion with them as near as may be according to their respective values; let this also be duly attended to, and then both Lands and *Houses* will have some relief from their present heavy Burthens.

There is another consideration which shews that the Hamlets pay more than their Proportion towards the Maintenance of the Poor. It appears from a Parochial List of the Number of Houses and Inhabitants within the City of Norwich, the Precincts of the Close, and the Hamlets, taken in the Year 1752, that the Hamlets then contained about a 14th part of the Houses and a 13th part of the whole of the Inhabitants; and the Number of Paupers may in general be reckoned in proportion to the Number of Inhabitants; which probably
does

does not differ much now from what it was in 1752 : surely then it is unreasonable to require that the Hamlets should pay a seventh part of the Mulcts which are to be raised, which is almost double their equitable proportion ; and their acquiescing in the proposal to pay a tenth part shewed, that they had no disposition to raise any unreasonable Contention.

When the Hamlets originally agreed to be connected with the City in maintaining the Poor, it is reasonable to presume, they expected that the Manufacturers should be assessed for their Stocks employed in Trade, along with the Occupiers of Lands and Houses, in equal proportion as near as might be according to their respective values ; because the intended Act of Parliament which was adapted to the peculiar Circumstances of the City of Norwich required this ; otherwise they would not have consented to a Connection so very disadvantageous to themselves : and the Practice, of the City for ten years after the Act was passed, during which

which time the Stock paid one Sixth part of the whole expence, tends greatly to confirm this presumption; the present Occupiers of Lands and Houses in the Hamlets think this is not done now as the Act requires, and therefore they complain of being unequally assessed and unjustly burthened.

If these Observations are just and well founded, they deserve the Attention of every friend to Justice among the Citizens of Norwich; if they should appear to be in any degree otherwise, it is hoped that some person, who better understands the question, will candidly endeavour to shew this, and explain the matter more clearly; and when the Inhabitants in general shall have received full Information upon this Subject, this may possibly be the means of bringing about an amicable Accommodation between the contending Parties, which certainly would be a most desirable Event.

F I N I S.



